

5 CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. In a lift device of the type appended to a vehicle, said lift device having a platform movable between a lower or ground position, upper or load position and stowed position, said platform assuming a substantially horizontal orientation in said ground and load position and pivotable to a substantially vertical orientation when stowed for vehicle movement, said platform being connected to a lever arm assembly and further including hydraulic apparatus to move said platform between ground, load and stowed positions, said hydraulic apparatus being actuated by a pump and motor assembly, the improvement comprising providing an electric motor with control circuitry for actuation of said pump and hydraulic apparatus so that speed of motion of the platform is directly proportional to the speed of said motor.
2. The lift device of claim 1 wherein said lever arm assembly comprises at least one parallelogram structure.
3. The lift device of claim 1 wherein said speed of said motor is selected so that said platform moves more slowly when pivoting from horizontal to vertical orientations than when said platform moves from ground to load.
4. The lift device of claim 1 wherein said lift device is a wheelchair lift.

5 5. The lift device of claim 1 wherein said lift device is a tailgate lift.

6. In a lift device of the type used to raise a vehicle vertically for
enabling ready access to the vehicle's undercarriage, said lift device comprising a
platform for supporting a vehicle movable from ground to an elevated position and
10 back to ground again, the improvement comprising providing an electric motor with
control circuitry or actuation of a pump and hydraulic apparatus so that speed of
motion of said platform is directly proportional to the speed of the motor.